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17 May 1957

Selected Intelligence on USSR Inland Waterways1. Volume of Cargo Movements on USSR Inland Waterwaysa. Estimated Distribution of Tons-Originated of Inland Waterway Freight Traffic in the USSR by Commodity, 1955, 1956, in Millions of Metric Tons

| <u>Commodity</u>       | <u>Years</u> |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | <u>1955</u>  | <u>1956*</u> |
| Petroleum              | 16.5         | 17.9         |
| Rafted Timber          | 64.0         | 68.0         |
| Dry Cargo              |              |              |
| Lumber carried by ship | 17.5         | 19.1         |
| Grain                  | 8.5          | 9.3          |
| Coal                   | 4.8          | 6.0          |
| Salt                   | 2.4          | 2.5          |
| Building Material      | 14.0         | 16.0         |
| Other Cargo            | 11.4         | 14.0         |
| Total                  | <u>139.1</u> | <u>152.8</u> |

\*Based on plan figure; actual volume equalled 98 percent

b. Tons Originated and Terminated on Individual Waterways Systems

The attached table presents the tons originated and terminated on the inland waterways systems of the RSFSR, USSR in 1955. The total of the systems in the RSFSR represent approximately 92 percent of the total tons originated on the inland waterways of the USSR during 1955.

2. Season of Navigability

## PART 1 - EUROPEAN USSR

I. BALTIC WHITE SEA WATERWAYA. Neva River

Navigable season: Early May to late November

B. Lake Ladoga

Navigable season: Late March to October

C. Lake Ladoga Side Canal

Navigable season: May to November

D. Svir River

Navigable season: April to November

Navigable season: Middle of May to November

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F. Stalin Canal

Navigable season: May to October

II. MARIINSK CANAL SYSTEM

A. Onega Side Canal

Navigable season: April to November

B. Vytegra River

Navigable season: May to late October

C. Mariinsk Canal

Navigable season: May to November

D. Kovgsha River

Navigable season: May to November

E. Beloserskiy Side Canal

Navigable season: April to November

F. Shaksha River

Navigable season: April to November

G. Rybinsk Reservoir

Navigable season: May to November

III. MOSCOW-VOLGA CANAL

Navigable season: April to November

IV. VOLGA RIVER SYSTEM

A. Volga River

Navigable season: April to November

B. Kama River

Navigable season: April to October

C. Moscow - Oka System

1. Oka River (Gorkiy to mouth of the Moscow)

Navigable season: April to November

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2. Moscow River

Navigable season: April to November

D. Volga-Don Canal

Navigable season: Late March to early December

E. Don and Northern Donets Rivers

1. Don River

Navigable season: Early April to early December

2. Northern Donets River:

Navigable season: Mid-March to early December

V. OTHER WATERWAY SYSTEMS

A. Western Dvina River

Navigable season: Early April to end of November

B. Dniestr River

Navigable season: Upper - April to December  
Middle - April to January  
Lower - March to January

C. Dniestr-Dug Canal System

Navigable season: March to December

D. Dniestr River

Navigable season: Early March to late December

E. Northern Dvina-Sulhona System

1. Northern Dvina River (Archangel'sk to Sulhona River)

Navigable season: May to October

2. Sulhona River (to Lake Kubenskoye)

Navigable season: May to November

3. Lake Kubenskoye (to North Dvina Canal)

Navigable season: May to November

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4. Northern Dvina Canal (to Shokana at Kirillov)

Navigable season: Mid-April to mid-October

PART 2 - SIBERIA

I. OB-IRTYSH SYSTEM

A. Ob River

Navigable season: The normal navigable seasons at various points in the river are as follows:

| <u>Observation Pt.</u> |                          | <u>Aver. No. of Days</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ryysk                  | End April - End October  | 185                      |
| Barnaul                | End April - End October  | 185                      |
| Novosibirsk            | Early May - End October  | 176                      |
| Tom River Mouth        | Early May - Late October | 171                      |
| Norynsk                | Mid May - Late October   | 166                      |
| Surgut                 | Late May - Late October  | 158                      |
| Salakhard              | Early June - Mid October | 137                      |

B. Irtysk River

Navigable season: Average 180 days (August to October)

C. Tom River

Navigable season: The river is navigable from its mouth to the Abashovskiy village, a distance of 370 miles. During the dry season it can be used only as far as Tomsk.

II. YENISEY RIVER SYSTEM

A. Yenisey River

Navigable season: November to late April

B. Angara River

Navigable season: The upper reach between Irkutsk and Bratsk freezes over in late December and breaks up in April. Navigation is generally hazardous because of the combination of swift currents, stony bed, and rocky banks. Weather conditions are also unfavorable. The lower reach from Bratsk to the mouth freezes over in November and thaws in mid-May. As in the upper reach there are many treacherous rapids, currents and shallows.

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C. Lake Baikal

Navigable season: Because of its great depth and strong prevailing winds, Baikal freezes over very gradually, generally in late December or early January. The southern part of the lake is navigable for 210 days and the northern part two weeks less. Navigation is so seriously hindered by violent gales in the latter part of the season that the period of safe navigation is not greater than 150 days. Thick fogs also hinder navigation between May and August.

D. Selenge River

Navigable season: The navigation period varies from 175 to 200 days, from April until late October or early November.

III. LENA RIVER

Navigable season: The delta channels are extremely variable, but the main channel which begins at Bykovskiy is regularly navigated. Thawing begins in late May and is accompanied by spring floods which are aggravated by ice jams and drifting ice. Freezing usually occurs in mid-October. The navigable season from Yakutsk to Kirensk extends from mid-May to late October.

IV. KOLIMA RIVER

Navigable season: June to later September

V. ANUR RIVER

Navigable season: May to November

PART 3 - CENTRAL ASIA

I. ARAL SEA - AMU-DARYA WATERWAY

A. Aral Sea

Navigable season: Usually the lake freezes over only in its northeastern quarter, but during severe winters the entire surface may be frozen. Ice forms in December and melts during late April.

B. Amu-Darya River

Navigable season: Late February to late December

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II. SYR-MAHYA

Navigable season: Approximately 250 days

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